

ESTABLISHED 1881.

THIRTY DOLLARS
PER ANNUM.

Intimations.

LECTURE.
CAPTAIN G. C. ANDERSON has kindly
consented to deliver an Address on
"BRITISH INTERESTS IN THE FAR
EAST," in the St. Andrews' Hall, on
MONDAY, the 20th of March, at 5.15 P.M.
The MEETING is OPEN to the PUBLIC
and LADIES are invited.
Mr. GRANVILLE SHARP will take the
Chair.

Chair. HENRY E. POLLOCK.
Hon. Secretary.
HONGKONG OLD VOLUMES SOCIETY
Hongkong, 16th March, 1899. [364

THE HONGKONG ROPE MANUFACTURING CO., LIMITED.

TWO (2) **CERTIFICATES** for 17 Shares numbered 4,981,4,996 and 5,000 standing in the Register of this Company in the name of JOHN PRENTICK having been LOST Notice is hereby given that Two Duplicate Certificates for the said 17 Shares will be issued one (1) month hence, and that the Original Certificates unless produced within that period will thereafter be held by the Company as null and void.

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,
General Managers;
Hongkong, 17th March, 1899. [372]

Auctions

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.
No. 135.

THE following Particulars of Sale of Crown
Land by Public Auction, to be held on
the spot, on **THURSDAY**

the 23rd day of March, 1899, at 3 P.M., a
published for general information.
By Command,
J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Hongkong, 25th February, 1899. [36]

Sale, to be held on Thursday, the 23rd day of March, 1899, at 3 P.M., by Order of His Excellency the Governor, of One Lot of CROWN LAND, in Victoria, in the Colony of Hong Kong, for a term of 21 Years.

Sale.	Tract No.	Boundary Measurement.	Acres in Tract.	Acres at Sale.
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[illegible]

Con-	122.6	122.6	23	122		
den	159.6	159.6	10	70	50	0
Peak Road						
Aut 3						

60.0	60.0	140	140
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GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION
No. 136.
THE following Particulars of Sale of Cro

the spot, on **FRIDAY,**
the 24th day of March, 1899, at 3 P.M.,
published for general information.

By Command,
J. H. STEWART LOCKHART
Colonial Secretary,
Colonial Secretary's Office,

Particulars of the letting by Public Auction, to be held on Friday, the 24th day March, 1899, at 3 P.M., by Order of His

PARTICULARS OF THE LOT.

No. of Sale.	Registry No.	LOCALITY.	Boundary Measurements.				Contents in Square F.	Annual Rental.
			N.	S.	E.	W.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	

	ft.	ft.	ft.	ft.	ft.	S
Maddonell and Chater Roads.	160.9	149.6	171	177.10	18.646	956

36a BY ORDER OF THE MORTGAGE
NY, J. R. G. P. LAMBERT has received

structions from the Mortgagee to Sell
PUBLIC AUCTION
on the premises on
TUESDAY, the 28th March, 1899,
at 2 P.M.

ALL THAT Valuable LEASEHOLD I
 PERTY situate Nos. 50, 52 and 54, L
 Lascar Row, Victoria, Hongkong, and regis
 in the Land Office as SUBSECTIONS
 SECTION A, 41 INLAND LOT NO. 1

The Property is held for the residue of term of 75 years, from the 26th June, 1843, for the further term of 924 years from expiry of the said term of 75 years, a

apportioned CROWN RENT of £28.00.
Particulars and Conditions of Sale may
be obtained from
Messrs. DEACON & HASTINGS
35, Queen's Road,

Vendors Solicitors,
and from the
The Auction
Hongkong, 11th March, 1899.

Insurance.

NORTH GERMAN FIRE INSURANCE

3151 COMPANY OF HAMBURG

THE Undersigned AGENTS of the
Company are prepared to accept
Class FOREIGN and CHINESE RIS

2912
 CURRENT RATES
 SIEMSEN &
 Hongkong, 28th May, 1895

100

To-day's Advertisements.

THEATRE ROYAL.

TO-NIGHT, LA BELLE PARISIENNE.

VIVIANNE, DAGMAR, COMEDY COMPANY.

"THE ELDER OF THE KIRK."

Comedy in two Acts.

To be followed by Select Varieties and (SERPENTINE) 4 CREATIONS.

MONDAY, the 20th March, 1899.

"THE GUINOA STAMP."

"THE GUINOA STAMP."

"THE GUINOA STAMP."

PRICES \$2 & \$1.

BOOK AT ROBINSON PLANO CO.

LIONEL WILLIS, Manager.

Hongkong, 18th March, 1899. [358a]

LOST AND FOUND.

ON the Praya, West of Peddar's Wharf, TO-DAY, about 1 P.M., a LADY'S GOLD WATCH and SAFETY PIN ATTACHMENT. May be had on Application to the Undersigned on proof of Ownership.

A. G. AITKEN, Dock Office.

Hongkong, 17th March, 1899. [373a]

VICTORIA RECREATION CLUB.

ATHLETIC SPORTS.

IT is proposed to hold an ATHLETIC MEETING on SATURDAY, 1st April, 1899, under A.A.A. Rules (subject to sufficient entries being received).

EVENTS.

- 1.—Long Jump.
- 2.—Throwing the Cricket Ball.
- 3.—Throwing the Hammer (16 lbs.)
- 4.—120 yards Flat Race (Handicap).
- 5.—Bicycle Race, 1 mile. (Handicap).
- 6.—100 yards Flat Race, Challenge Cup (to be won three times).
- 7.—High Jump.
- 8.—Bicycle Race, 2 miles. (Handicap).
- 9.—Half-mile Flat Race.
- 10.—Fug-of-War—8 men a side—open to Non-Commissioned Officers and Men of Army, Navy, and Police. Each ship, Regiment or Corps may enter one team only.

- 11.—Sack Race.
- 12.—220 yards Flat Race (Handicap).
- 13.—Three-legged Race, 100 yards.
- 14.—One Mile Flat Race (Handicap).
- 15.—120 yards Veterans' Race (Handicap) open.
- 16.—120 yards Flat Race, to Migrants.
- 17.—Half-mile Race, 2 miles. (Handicap).
- 18.—Half-mile Flat Race, open to Soldiers, Sailors, and Police.
- 19.—440 yards Flat Race (Challenge Cup).
- 20.—Consolation Race.

Events 1 to 12, 17, 19, 20 open to all Gentlemen, Amateurs, and Members of Visitors of the Hongkong Club, New Club, Club Germania, Eastman, City, Cricket, or Victoria Recreation Club, and Hongkong Boat Clubs. Entrance fee, 2s for each event 1 to 9, 11, 17 and 19. General Entry, 1s.

Entries CLOSE on FRIDAY, 24th March. Entrance forms obtainable at the above-mentioned Clubs.

W. S. BAILEY, Acting Hon. Secretary.

N.B.—This programme is subject to alteration.

Hongkong, 18th March, 1899. [373a]

UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON, LIMITED.

NOTICE.

THE Undersigned, takes charge from this date.

By Order of the Board, DOUGLAS JONES, Secretary.

Hongkong, 18th March, 1899. [373a]

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

FOR LONDON VIA SUEZ CANAL.

THE Company's Steamship.

"MENELAUS."

Captain Towell, will be dispatched as above on WEDNESDAY, the 22nd inst.

For Freight, apply to BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.

Hongkong, 18th March, 1899. [399a]

FOR NEW YORK VIA SUEZ CANAL.

THE Steamship.

"MOYUEN."

Captain Connell, will be dispatched for the above ports, on or about the 25th inst.

To be followed by the "LIV." For Freight, apply to SHEWAN, TOMES & CO., Agents.

Hongkong, 18th March, 1899. [245a]

THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

STEAM FOR STRAITS, CEYLON, AUSTRALIA, INDIA, ADEEN, EGYPT, MEDITERRANEAN, PORTS, PLYMOUTH AND LONDON.

(Through Bill of Lading issued for BAVIAN, PERSIAN, GULF, CONTINENTAL and AMERICAN PORTS.)

THE Steamship.

"CHUSAN."

Captain E. Street, carrying Her Majesty's Mail, will be dispatched from this for BOMBAY, &c., on SATURDAY, the 1st April, at Noon, taking Passengers and Cargo for the above Ports.

Silk and Valuables, all Cargo for France, and Tea for London (under arrangement) will be transhipped at Colombo into a steamer proceeding direct to Marseilles and London. Other Cargo for London, &c., will be conveyed via Bombay.

Parcels will be received at this office until 4 P.M. of the day of sailing. The Consignee and Value of all Packages are required.

Shippers are particularly requested to note the terms and conditions of the Company's Bill of Lading.

For further particulars apply to J. A. MITCHELL, Superintendent.

Hongkong, 18th March, 1899. [5]

To-day's Advertisement.

BIJOU THEATRE.

RECLAMATION GROUND, PRAYA WEST.

D'ARC'S MARIONETTES.

EIGHTH WEEK.

Despite the Present Continuous Enormous and Sensational Success.

PACKED AUDIENCES NIGHTLY.

The Management regret to announce the LAST WEEK of this Exceptionally Brilliant and Enormously Successful Company owing to previous arrangements; consequently the Season terminates positively on SATURDAY EVENING, the 25th inst.

TO-NIGHT, Grand Change of Programme.

ROBINSON CRUSOE.

PLAN at ROBINSON PLANO CO.

Hongkong, 18th March, 1899. [118a]

Intimation.

A. S. WATSON & Co., LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

ALL our stocks of WINES and SPIRITS are selected by experienced buyers on first hand imported in wood and bottled by ourselves, thus saving all intermediate profits, and enabling us to supply the best goods at moderate prices.

PRICE LISTS, with full details, to be had on application.

PORT after removal should be rested a month before use. When required for drinking at once it should be ordered to be decanted before being sent out.

SHERRY.—Excellent Dinner and After Dinner Wines of very superior Vintages. All are true XERES Wines.

CLARET. Our CLARETS, including the lowest priced, are guaranteed to be the genuine produce of the juice of the grape and are not artificially made from raisins and currants, as is generally the case with Cheap Wines.

BRANDY.—All our BRANDY is guaranteed to be pure COGNAC, the difference in price being merely a question of age and vintage.

WHISKY. All our WHISKY is of excellent quality and of greater age than most brands in the market. The SCOTCH WHISKY marked "E" is universally popular, and is pronounced by the best local connoisseurs to be superior to any other brand in the Hongkong market.

We guarantee our Wines and Spirits to be genuine only when bought direct from us in the Colony or from our authorised Agents at the Coast Ports.

A. S. WATSON & Co., Limited, THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 1899.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

Are our sanitary authorities aware of the comparatively recent bacteriological experiments made on the breaking up of sewage matter by the germs contained in the living soil, and the results obtained? These experiments have shown that no better system of sanitation than the dry earth system exists. That it is an absolutely safe method of dealing with sewage matter and that it is cheaper and far more satisfactory than the costly sewage systems in vogue in most towns, which entail endless supervision, and a large expenditure in the matter of upkeep.

No one visiting Kowloon can fail to be struck by the powerful and disgusting odours that assail the olfactory nerves on turning the corner from the wharves into Elgin Road. These odours proceed from the public latrine, situated in Elgin Road, and which is always regarded by Kowloon residents as a standing source of annoyance. It is used daily by hundreds of coolies and the disinfectants used appear to have little or no power to deodorize the place. This nuisance could, we are assured, be easily done away with by providing each latrine with boxes of dry earth with a scoop attached so that every coolie after making use of the latrine could sprinkle a scoopful of dry earth into the pit. The system could soon be got to work satisfactorily by posting notices in the latrines with directions for the use of the earth. A fortnight there will be no offence in the open-air latrine.

Another point in favour of the dry earth system is that the Chinese would much pre-

fer to take away sewage matter uncontaminated by disinfectants. For disinfectants prevent the sewage, for a long time, from resolving into the constituents necessary for aiding the growth of our food plants. It is a well-known fact that at some of the Treaty Ports the Chinese are willing to pay for the privilege of removing sewage matter where disinfectants are absent, while where they have been used payment is demanded for its removal. This being the case it is easily seen that the obstacles in the way of the removal of night soil would be greatly diminished were the system which we advocate universally adopted in Hongkong.

In private houses where dry earth has been used it has invariably been found to be a decided improvement upon the use of disinfectants. The earth not only prevents all unpleasant odours from arising from the latrines, but renders the handling of the night soil much less obnoxious and at the same time transforms it into a valuable and non-dangerous manure which can be used with perfect safety and freedom from offence to the nostrils of the most delicate lady in either the flower or vegetable garden. To those of our readers who doubt our assertions we can only give the system a fair trial. It has been scoffed at in its early days by sanitary authorities and unbelievers in England frequently, but when once induced to make a trial of the system for themselves the verdict has invariably been in its favour.

TELEGRAMS.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

GERMANY AND THE TRANS-AFRICAN RAILWAY.

LONDON, March 16th.

Mr. Rhodes has succeeded in the negotiations to construct the Cape-Cairo telegraph system through German territory instead of via the Congo Free State, and similar arrangements concerning the railway are nearly completed.

THE GERMAN ARMY BILL.

In consequence of an adverse vote in the Reichstag the German Government assumes to fixing the peace effective force at 425,000, instead of 502,000 demanded by the Army Bill.

(From Japanese Papers.)

THE ITALIAN DEMANDS.

PERKING, March 17th.

Italy will do nothing further till the arrival in China of her men-of-war.

The British Minister, accompanied by the Italian Minister, has paid a visit to the Tsungli Yamen to support the claims of Italy.

MILITARY OFFICERS OFFERED TO CHINA.

PERKING, March 17th.

Germany, utilizing the present opportunity, has suggested to the Chinese Government the advisability of China engaging German military instructors.

ILLNESS OF QUEEN MARIE HENRIETTE.

TOKYO, March 16th.

Mr. Kuroki, the Japanese Minister in Paris, telegraphed yesterday that H. M. the Queen of Belgium is dangerously ill, and there is little hope of her recovery.

MASSACRE IN FORMOSA.

TOKYO, March 16th.

A dispatch from the commander of the 14th company of Genardines in Formosa states that on the 7th inst. 20 Formosans were massacred by aborigines at Daransho, Tachiu prefecture.

WEATHER REPORT.

The Observatory report says:—On the 18th at 11.45 a.m. Barometric changes on the China coast are slight. The high pressure area appears to be spreading over Japan, and pressure is relatively low in the S. part of the China Sea. Gradients slight to moderate on the coast, rather steep with very strong monsoon in the N. part of the China Sea. Forecast: Fresh N.E. winds fair.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

THE plots are thickening round us, says the N. C. D. News, of 14th inst. It is reported that Italy has given China four days, in which to concede San Mun Bay, on pain of the use of force.

THE Royal Hongkong Yacht Club's tenth race will be sailed to-morrow, the course being from the Police Pier Kowloon passing Channel Rocks (to port), Kowloon Rocks (to port), and Meyer's East Buoy to port, twice round.

THREE elephants now play a game of skittles every night on the stage of a London music-hall. The animals appear to be masters of pantomime, and the audience is convulsed with laughter by the ludicrous manner in which the huge beasts imitate the way men play the game.

According to Major Waddell, who has written an interesting book of travel about the Himalayas, it is the Chinese, and not the Tibetans, who exclude British trade and travellers from the Grand Lama's country. He declares that it is the object of China to prevent any trade with Britain and India in the gold and wool of Tibet, and he suggests the wisdom of throwing open to the Chinese, with their devious and false promises, and dealing direct with the Tibetans themselves.

FOLLOWING the advice concluding the report of a special Commission sent not long ago to China and Japan in order to inquire into the necessity of creating a Swedish-Norwegian representation in the Far East, the Swedish Foreign Secretary has provided in his estimates the sum of 113,000 crowns for a Legation at Peking. Of this amount 60,000 crowns were destined for the purchase of a site where the building was to be erected. In accordance, however, with its systematic policy of obstruction, the Norwegian Government has opposed the realization of this scheme, and King Oscar has now struck them out of this year's budget.

The first sod of the Graving Dock at Colombo was to be cut by the Governor of Ceylon on the 1st inst.

The relics of Buddha that were offered by the Indian Government to the King of Siam have been made over to His Majesty's Commissioner at Gorakhpur. The occasion was marked by a fitting ceremony.

THE Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Netherdale Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donations to the funds of the Hospitals:—

Tse Hing Yin \$5

THE small-pox epidemic in Rangoon continues to spread, and the number of patients in the Hospital increases daily. Captain Smith and Mr. Greasy (chief engineer) of the s. s. *Filepatrick* have both died of that disease there.

As will be seen by reference to our advertising columns, Captain Anderson will deliver a lecture on Monday next at 5.15 p.m. before the Odd Volumes Society, on "British Interests in the Far East." The public and ladies are invited to attend.

Mr. W. M. Miller of Calcutta Estate, in Province Wellesley, has been authorised to fill the specification of an invention for "an improvement in the process of manufacturing sugar, and particularly 'basket' or muscovado sugar, by using oil as a means for regulating the evaporation and temperature of boiling and drying."

SOME time ago the Welsh and some of the English coal-miners demanded an increase in the hewing rates. The matter was referred to a Conciliation and Arbitration Board, which has now given its decision that an increase of 5 per cent. shall take place in the hewing wages in April, and that an additional increase of 7½ per cent. shall be granted in October.

A REPORT from London states that the rate at which Indian and Ceylon tea is displacing the tea of the Chinese from the English market is obvious to the most careless observer. More particularly is this the case with regard to package teas, for only blindness itself could fail to note the increasing stock of Ceylon tea in tin foil packets of various sizes which stores everywhere stand and displace of.

THE German Consul-General and party were waiting for some time at the P. & O. Jetty yesterday afternoon, says the N. C. D. News, of 14th inst. to welcome L. R. H. Prince Henry of Prussia. The news was brought them that the Prince and his suite had landed quietly at the Japanese Mail Wharf. When they proceeded to the German Consulate, where they are now residing. The German Consul-General and party, who were waiting for the Prince, were disappointed to find that the Prince and his suite had landed quietly at the Japanese Mail Wharf. When they proceeded to the German Consulate, where they are now residing.

"There is promise of much birth and music at the City Hall to-night," says the N. C. D. News, of 14th inst. "The Victoria Dagmar Company will put on the boards the comedy 'The Elder of the Kirk,' and after that, there are to be variety performances by several artists who have been appearing at the London Hall."

THE sensation of the evening, it seems probable, will be Miss Victoria Dagmar's four Serpentine dances: "Dream," "Toreador," "Night," and "Gipsies," which have literally taken Singapore and other places by storm.

THE semi-final for the Hongkong Challenge Shield was played this afternoon on the Happy Valley, the competing teams being H.M.S. *Victorious* and Hongkong F. C. As we go to press, the match is concluded, and the result, which was a surprise to many, is that the Hongkong team, the unexpected might have happened this afternoon. If so, the *Victorious* team must be congratulated on winning the shield; for practically it is so, as the 38th Company Artillery will stand no chance at all when they eleven meet either of the semi-final teams in the final game. We would like to see the Club win the trophy, for its players have worked hard, played in every round, and never met with the slightest luck; in fact, as far as luck is concerned, it has always been ill for the loss. It has been lost every time, and the first half has in consequence had to be played against a blazing sun.

MURDER AND INCENDIARISM.

A terrible incident is recorded in the vernacular papers as having taken place at Nakayama-mura, Iyo district. Early in the morning of the 5th inst. a fire was discovered in the house of a woman named Miyamoto Miyayo, and the neighbours immediately proceeded to extinguish the flames, which they succeeded in doing. Search was then made for the owner of the house, who was ultimately found among the debris quite dead, her arms tied and her mouth gagged. Some bad cats on her neck and body had apparently been done with an axe. It is supposed that a burglar entered the house, and being discovered by the owner, murdered her and set fire to the house to conceal his crime.—*Kohs Chronicle.*

TURKISH ARMAMENTS.

All sorts of projects of new armament are under discussion, including the rebuilding and rearranging of the fortress of the Dardanelles and Bosphorus. The Sultan has determined in principle to reorganize the artillery and give it a new outfit of quick-firing guns. But no order whatever for arms or ammunition has been given since last summer, when a contract was made with Mauser for 100,000 cartridges. The first advance in respect of this contract, which was to have been made within a few days of its signature, has only just been paid, and it is only now that the manufacture of the cartridges is beginning.

IN Fock, the new mining code provides for the exclusion of Counsel in all matters, within the jurisdiction of the Mines' Warden's court. The reason for this is difficult to understand, and the lawyers there object to the exclusion.

NATAL tea is providing the colony with new outlets for energy and capital. Last year's output was estimated at from 300,000 to 400,000 pounds; and as there are other estates which bring up the total under tea-cultures to between 2,500 to 3,000 acres, this year's output of tea may be put down at 1,000,000 lbs. at least.

CARL MILLER, who won the great international six days bicycle race at Madison Square course, New York, last December, breaking all records with a run of 2037 miles, and was married on the race track, broke his own record on the 25th February and won the six days' race at San Francisco with 2192 miles or 366 miles a day.

THE Hongkong Volunteers lost one of their senior members to-day by the departure of Sergeant Hayward for Borneo, on board the *Sultan*. Sgt. Hayward, who has been a member of the Volunteer Corps for 13 years, during six of which he has held the position of No. 1 in No. 1, 7pdr. gun detachment Field battery, had an informal dinner given in his honour last night, at Thomas' Grill Rooms, by the members of No. 1 detachment. Eleven sat down to a well furnished table and heartily appreciated the choice viands put before them by the worthy host. The chairman in proposing the health of their departing comrade said he had known Sgt. Hayward for upwards of 14 years and could distinctly call to memory the first occasion that he had seen him. He could conscientiously say that No. 1 detachment was and had for a number of years past been the best detachment, and it was greatly owing to the untiring zeal that had been shown by their No. 1, which had so vastly contributed to their occupying such an enviable position. He wished their late Sergeant every success in life and full confidence in him, as he had known him in different situations and he was bound to say he had been successful in them all. Sgt. Hayward, in responding, thanked the Chairman for his far too high opinion of his unworthy endeavours to do his duty wherever he might have to go, he would always remember the men of No. 1 detachment, as it was owing to their skill and cooperation that he had been able to beat such eulogistic remarks passed concerning himself. He felt great reluctance at leaving Hongkong and the many friends with whom he had grown up and been associated in all the happiest days he could recall. He thanked them for the generosity and good will shown towards him.

MORE CASES OF RINDERPEST AT CAUSEWAY BAY.

At a special meeting of the Sanitary Board yesterday afternoon, Mr. M. Atkinson presiding, a report was submitted by Mr. J. L. Colquhoun, V.M.S., Surgeon, Station at Causeway Bay, which was read and discussed. It was stated that Mr. J. L. Colquhoun, V.M.S., Surgeon, Station at Causeway Bay, which he had previously reported as containing 17 cattle. He recommended the immediate slaughter of the whole lot. This course if adopted would clear out all the cattle from the place and probably be the means of terminating the epidemic. On the motion of Mr. Atkinson, seconded by Mr. Clark, the premises were declared infected. The Hon. F. H. May proposed that the six infected cattle be slaughtered, and that the Colonial Veterinary Surgeon be authorised to slaughter any of the remaining 17 immediately they show symptoms of the disease, and that proper arrangements be made for the isolation of the cattle and attendants by the Colonial Veterinary Surgeon with the assistance of the police.

Mr. Osborne seconded.

Mr. Atkinson proposed as an amendment that the whole of the 17 cattle be slaughtered. He, however, could not find a seconder, and the motion was carried.

FOOTBALL.

The semi-final for the Hongkong Challenge Shield was played this afternoon on the Happy Valley, the competing teams being H.M.S. *Victorious* and Hongkong F. C. As we go to press, the match is concluded, and the result, which was a surprise to many, is that the Hongkong team, the unexpected might have happened this afternoon. If so, the *Victorious* team must be congratulated on winning the shield; for practically it is so, as the 38th Company Artillery will stand no chance at all when they eleven meet either of the semi-final teams in the final game. We would like to see the Club win the trophy, for its players have worked hard, played in every round, and never met with the slightest luck; in fact, as far as luck is concerned, it has always been ill for the loss. It has been lost every time, and the first half has in consequence had to be played against a blazing sun.

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OLIVERS FREEHOLD MINES, LTD.

The third ordinary annual general meeting of the shareholders in the Olivers Freehold Mines, Ltd., was held to-day in the registered offices of the Company. Mr. H. Humphreys presided. The others present were—Messrs. J. A. Jupp, W. H. Potts, C. Ewins, A. H. Man-Cell, Captain Clarke, Lan Chu Pak, J. S. Hagen and W. C. Taylor (Secretary).

The Secretary read the notice calling the meeting.

The Chairman said—Gentlemen, the report and statement of accounts having been in your hands for some days, I will, with your permission, take them up now. You will see, by the accounts that besides the amount spent in Mining and crushing, and actual Mining charges, we have expended during the year a sum of \$14,600 in developing our property, which has been charged to a new account called "development account." This amount will have to be written off from time to time as opportunity offers and when we get returns from these developments. It includes the cost of sinking the "B" shaft which we referred to in the report and the cost of driving at the 300 ft. level in the Main shaft, which work is quite unremunerative, but which must be done in order to discover, if possible, the cause of the falling off in the value of the stone at this depth. You will readily understand that the striking of payable ore at the bottom level or deeper, would greatly enhance the value of our property. You will remember that at the end of 1897, we had just finished sinking our Main shaft to a depth of 300 feet and were preparing to drive both north and south on the reef at this level. The reef was 8 feet thick and looked very promising; unfortunately it did not come up to the expectations of our Manager, and as far as we have gone yet, we have not met with any payable stone. Latterly, however, there are signs of improvement in the lead and we may reasonably hope for an improvement in the near future. At the 200 and 150 feet levels, driving and stopping has been carried on almost continuously and both from the stopes above these levels and from those of the intermediate level below 200 feet, we have been getting large quantities of ore of good quality. In the North drive at 150 feet, a good shute of stone has lately been met with, and as we are now out beyond any old workings in this drive and approaching the "B" Shaft all the time, we regard this as most satisfactory. The distances driven on the various drives during the year amount to about 3500 feet. The "B" Shaft has been sunk to a depth of 136 feet. Driving to intercept the reef at this point is now in progress and at the end of the year 33 ft. had been driven. As stated in our Report, 6383 tons of stone were crushed during the year, realising 2307 ounces 6 dwts. of gold, or an average yield of 7.4 dwts. per ton. The Battery was idle for 2 months 6 weeks on account of drought and consequent failure of our water supply and two weeks owing to a breakdown in the machinery. Advantage was taken of the dam being empty to dredge and falgate it and to construct a new one giving rise to a greater than before. This is a great measure accounts for the increase of the account at the debit of works, buildings and fixed plant account, the cost of these operations being \$204,140, including all labour and stores and the cost of the erection of a new steamroom and assay office accounts for the balance. It is absolutely necessary we should be in a position to do our own assaying on the spot, and as our Battery Manager is an experienced assayer we shall not need to increase our staff. On the whole, we think that the result of the year's working may be considered fairly satisfactory. The last three months, we got much improved results, which have continued in January and February this year. We see no reason why we should not look forward to a profitable year's work. During the year the Mines have been visited in your interests by Mr. Hart Buck and Mr. J. A. Jupp of our firm. The latter's visit being occasioned by the sad death of our representative in Australia, Mr. G. J. Millmott, whom we greatly regret. If there are any questions to ask, I shall be pleased to answer them.

No questions being asked, the Chairman proposed the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. Lan Chu Pak seconded.

Carried.

The Chairman—Mr. G. R. Stevens having resigned from the Consulting Committee, Mr. Pollock was asked to join the Board. This appointment requires confirmation. I would therefore propose that the appointment of Mr. Pollock be confirmed.

Mr. Jupp seconded.

Carried.

The Chairman proposed the re-election of Mr. W. H. Potts as auditor.

Mr. Man-cell seconded.

Carried.

The Chairman intimated that this concluded the business of the meeting.

LEGAL INTELLIGENCE.

SUPREME COURT.

CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

Before Sir John Carrington (Chief Justice.)

March 18th.

LARCENY FROM A DWELLING-HOUSE.

Chan Wah and Ching Fu were charged with larceny from a dwelling-house. First prisoner pleaded guilty on three counts and not guilty on the fourth—as to the theft of a handkerchief. Second prisoner pleaded not guilty on all counts. He also pleaded not guilty to receiving stolen goods well knowing the same to have been stolen.

The following composed the jury—Messrs. A. S. Anton (foreman), E. H. Joseph, C. Klinek, D. T. Neigara, B. M. Neira, J. T. Aquino and L. M. J. Alvarez.

The Hon. W. M. Goodman (Attorney-General), instructed by Mr. H. L. Denny (Crown Solicitor) prosecuted. He said both prisoners were formerly house coolies in succession in the employ of Mrs. Stevens of Edgely, Lower Richmond Road. First prisoner, who had pleaded guilty to certain facts, entered the employ of Mrs. Stevens on the 23rd February but after being there an hour or two he cleared off. Second prisoner, who had pleaded not guilty, entered the employ of Mrs. Stevens on the 16th February and was discharged on the 19th February. On first prisoner leaving the house on the 23rd February five rings, a silk handkerchief, and other articles were found to have been stolen, and most of these articles were found in possession of prisoners the next day. Evidence having been given, prisoners were found guilty, first prisoner being sentenced to 15 months' imprisonment, and the second to nine months.

A MEMBER OF THE HONGKONG REGIMENT CHARGED WITH INDECENT ASSAULT.

Kiam Zamen, a member of the Hongkong Regiment was charged with indecent assault. He pleaded not guilty.

The following composed the jury—Messrs. P. H. Spedden, Carlos Augusto Montal de Rego, W. G. A. Klinek, A. V. Apen, J. A. Frederick, James Lockhead, and H. R. (Judge).

Case proceeding.

